



910 17th Street N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, DC 20006-2606
8/7/2017

FOIA officer
Department of the Navy-Office of the
Chief Of Naval Operations
FOIA/ Privacy Act Program Office/
Service Center ATTN: DNS 36
2000 Navy Pentagon
Washington DC 20350-2000

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

On behalf of the Center for Public Integrity and myself, jointly, I request that you provide us copies of the records identified and described below – or of records containing the information identified and described below:

Please send me any and all records concerning communications between the Department of the Navy and members of Congress since Jan. 1, 1988 [check this date] to the date this search is executed that mentions "Edison Chouest Offshore", "ECO", "Offshore Service Vessels", "Tampa Ship LLC", "C-Port", "Estaleiro Navship", "Navship", "Gulf Ship", "LaShip", "North American Shipbuilding", "B-Port", "C-Logistics", "Martin Terminal", "C-Terminal", "Drydock Facilities", "Fourchon Heavy Lift", "Clean Tank LLC", "Bram Offshore", "Bram Offshore Transportes Maritimos Ltda.", "Fairweather, LLC", "International Marine Systems", "Marine Technologies", "Sealand Mechanical", "C-Innovation", "Island Offshore Shipbuilding", "Island Offshore Management", "Island Ventures", "Alpha Marine Services", "Deadhorse Aviation Center", "Tulugaq, LLC", or "VDOS, LLC".

Please include any phone calls, call logs, call sheets, Skype calls or videos, emails, letters, hand-written notes, day calendars, memorandums, meeting agenda sheets, text messages, voice and video recordings and other documented forms of communication between members of Congress and the agency regarding any and all of the above-mentioned companies.

Format: we prefer to receive records in the following formats, listed in order of preference:

- (1) word processing file, text-based PDF, or similar;
- (2) other non-proprietary electronic format;
- (3) paper copies.

Please also provide any and all documentation related to such electronic records, including but not limited to data dictionaries, database documentation, record layouts, code sheets, data entry instructions, and similar printed or electronic documentation materials.

Please respond within 20 working days, as the Act provides, or notify me if “unusual” or “exceptional” circumstances apply (as the Act uses those terms).

If you decide to withhold an exempt portion of any record, please release all other segregable parts. If you withhold any record or portion of a record, please specify which statutory exemptions are claimed for each withholding. Please separately state how disclosure would harm an interest protected by the cited exemption. Please describe each record withheld, including its date and size (e.g., amount of electronic memory or number of paper pages).

If there are any search, review, or duplication fees greater than \$25, inform me before you fill the request. But first please consider the Center’s requests for fee reduction and fee waiver:

Request for fee reduction as a representative of the news media

The Center for Public Integrity is a news media organization, and therefore this request should be exempt from all fees for search and review. This request is being made in connection with the Center’s newsgathering functions and not for any other commercial purpose. The Center intends to produce one or more original investigative reports based on analysis of the requested information. The Center’s work has won the Pulitzer Prize in 2014 and 2017 and numerous other journalism awards (see <http://www.publicintegrity.org/about/our-work/awards>).

The only federal court to consider the issue has held that the Center “is entitled to treatment as a representative of the news media for purposes of FOIA.” Center for Public Integrity v. HHS, Civil Case No. 06-1818, 2007 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 56172 (D.D.C. Aug. 3, 2007), https://ecf.dcd.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/show_public_doc?2006cv1818-15. In addition, our reporters covering Congress and congressional committees are credentialed by the Standing Committee of Correspondents of the Congressional Daily Press Gallery.

Request for fee waiver

In addition, the Center requests a waiver of all duplication fees for this request as permitted under the Act. Disclosure of the requested information to the Center is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government by showing how lawmakers affect or don’t agency actions regarding private companies. The disclosures we request under the Freedom of Information Act primarily serve the public interest and not any commercial interest.

As a media organization (see above), the Center has the means to disseminate the requested information to the general public. We intend to publish the resulting investigative report(s) on our website, www.publicintegrity.org, which has approximately 300,000 pageviews monthly. We also intend to distribute the report(s) through other media outlets (print, broadcast and/or online).

Please feel free to contact me about any aspect of this request. In principle, the Center is willing to consider ways in which the request might reasonably be narrowed.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

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